DEBRIEFING IN SIMULATION

What is debriefing?
• Learned focused process designed to help learners reflect upon the simulation experience, their performance and where improvements can be made.
• Debriefing is critical to the education feedback loop (objectives, course materials, simulation exercise, debriefing)

Debriefing HOW-TO
• Ensure the debriefing environment is supportive to allow the release of emotions and reinforce that mistakes are an important part of learning.
• Help learners see the big picture of the simulation experience, not just their role.
• Answer learner questions and clarify learner thinking.
• Emphasize teaching points and connect theory to practice.
• Discuss event management and decision making at key crisis points. Was there a more appropriate action or decision? What theory supports this?
• Focus on the performance, not the performer.
• Focus on team interactions and communication.

Debriefing PROS
• Allows learners to sort out events, their actions and reflect upon what happened.
• Adults learn through self-discovery and self-analysis.
• Learners are more likely to follow through upon self-discovered improvements.
• Hands-on simulation experience + self-reflection + group review = higher retention among learners.
• Learner comments and feedback help contribute to QI and course refinement.

Debriefing CONS
• Combination of simulation + debriefing is less time efficient than lecturing.
• Requires trained faculty and faculty time.
• Some learners do not respond well to group feedback.

HOW TO at the Tulane Sim Center
• Make sure you ask for your training to be recorded.
• Book the conference room (up to 12 people), control room (up to 8 people) or meeting rooms (larger groups) for 30 minutes after your simulation to DEBRIEF from the video.
• Go the extra mile and annotate comments at key decision points on the video for your learners to go back and review on their own.
Debriefing References:


